



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

May 10, 2001

### **S. 219**

**A bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to provide alternative procedures during fiscal years 2002, 2003, and 2004 for assistance for major drug-transit and major illicit drug producing countries, and for other purposes**

*As reported by the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations on April 5, 2001*

S. 219 would, for a three-year period, modify procedures for providing bilateral assistance to countries that are known to be heavily involved in narcotics trafficking and that have not taken significant steps to curb such trafficking as outlined in international agreements. Nations identified under those requirements would be ineligible for aid from the United States unless the President determines that the aid is vital to the national interests of the United States or the country is making substantial efforts to adhere to its international agreements. The new procedures would replace the current practice of delaying obligations and conducting a Congressional review of Presidential determinations before funds are released.

CBO estimates that enacting S. 219 would result in no significant additional costs or savings to the federal government because the change in procedure would not significantly alter the amount of bilateral assistance provided to countries or the State Department's workload. Because the bill would not affect direct spending or receipts, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply.

S. 219 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact is Joseph C. Whitehill. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.